



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/575,109 | 05/23/2000 | Paul Lapstun | PEC02US | 9123 |

24011 7590 07/07/2003

SILVERBROOK RESEARCH PTY LTD
393 DARLING STREET
BALMAIN, 2041
AUSTRALIA

EXAMINER

LAMB, TWYLER MARIE

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
|----------|--------------|

2622

DATE MAILED: 07/07/2003

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/575,109

Applicant(s)

LAPSTUN ET AL.

Examiner

Twyler M. Lamb

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 May 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 8-15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2 and 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brass et al. (Brass) (US 4,754,127).

With regard to claims 1 and 6, Brass discloses a printed page tag encoder (Figure 5) comprising: an input (computer 50) at which to receive a tag structure template (col 4, lines 35-39); an input (computer 50) at which to receive fixed data bits (col 4, lines 35-46); an input (computer 50) at which to receive variable data bit records (col 4, lines 35-46); and a tag dot generator (printer 52) outputting single bits depending on position in the tag defined by the tag structure template and said fixed and said variable data (col 5, lines 53-58).

With regard to claims 2 and 7, Brass also discloses additionally comprising a redundancy encoder for optionally encoding said fixed and/or said variable data (col 4, lines 35-46).

With regard to claim 4, Brass also discloses wherein tags are placed regularly on a page (col 5, lines 53-58).

With regard to claim 5, Brass also discloses wherein tags are placed in a

Art Unit: 2622

triangular grid (col 5, lines 53-58).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brass et al. (Brass) (US 4,754,127) in view of Dehgani et al. (Dehgani) (US 4,896,353).

With regard to claim 3, Brass differs from claim 3 in that he does not teach wherein the redundancy encoder utilizes Reed-Solomon encoding.

Dehgani discloses an apparatus that includes the redundancy encoder utilizes Reed-Solomon encoding (col 3, lines 10-15).

There fore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Brass to include wherein the redundancy encoder utilizes Reed-Solomon encoding as taught by Dehgani. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Brass by the teaching of Dehgani to produce the outer code as a binary stream on line as taught by Dehgani in col 3, lines 10-15.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 8-15 allowed.

Art Unit: 2622

Claims 8, 14 and 15 identifies the unique features "a print engine/controller to drive an ink drop printhead comprising: a contone image decoder to decode any compressed continuous tone image planes in the received compressed page data; a bi-level decoder to decode any compressed bi-level image plane in the received compressed page data; a tag encoder to produce a tag image plane; and a half toner/compositor including a dot merger unit controlled by a color mask to effect integration of the image planes and tag data plane".

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Twyler Lamb whose telephone number is 703 - 308-8823. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L Coles can be reached on 703-308-4712. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-6036 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

(for informal or draft communications, such as proposed amendments to be discussed at an interview; please label such communications "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

or hand-carried to:

Application/Control Number: 09/575,109

Page 5

Art Unit: 2622

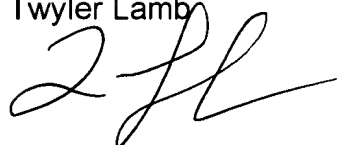
Crystal Park Two

2121 Crystal Drive

Arlington, VA.

Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

Twyler Lamb

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Twyler Lamb', with a large, stylized 'T' and 'L'.

June 29, 2003